

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TUNIS 09146 271315Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00
SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-07 L-03
PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 EB-08 SSC-01 INT-05
HEW-06 COME-00 /080 W
-----015664 271321Z /41

O P 271216Z DEC 77
FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9367
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY RABAT PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY TRIPPOOI PRIORITY
SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

UNCLAS TUNIS 9146

USCINCEUR FOR ECJ-2
USEEC BRUSSELS

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, TS
SUBJ: GOT ANNOUNCES FURTHER CHANGES IN GOVERNMENT ON DEC 26

REF: TUNIS 9128 (NOTAL)

1. FOLLOWING UNEXPECTED REMOVAL OF INTERIOR MIISTER BELKHODJA
ON DEC 23, GOT ANNOUNCED ON DEC 26 A NUMBER OF ADDITIONAL
SIGNIFICANT CHANGES AT CABINET AND SUB-CABINET LEVEL. SOME
OF THE INCUMBENTS REPORTEDLY RESIGNED IN PROTEST AGAINST
BELKHODJA'S REMOVAL AND OTHERS RELIEVED OF THEIR FUNCTIONS ON
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GOT INITIATIVE.

2. LIST OF CHANGES IS AS FOLLOWS:

--SPECIAL ADVISOR TO THE PRESIDENT (NEW)-HABIB BOURGUIBA, JR.
PRESIDENT-DIRECTOR GENERAL OF TUNISIAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
BANK (SINCE 1971) AND SON OF PRESIDENT (MEMBER OF NATIONAL

ASSEMBLY AND OF PSD PARTY POLITICAL BUREAU).

--MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS - HABIB CHATTY REPLACED BY MOHAMED FITOURI, OUT-GOING MINISTER OF FINANCE (MEMBER OF PSD PARTY POLITICAL BUREAU AND OF NATIONAL ASSEMBLY).

--MINISTER OF INTERIOR-ABDALLAH FARHAT (AD INTERIM) REPLACED BY DHAOUI HANNABLIA, MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE 1971-74 (MEMBER OF PSD PARTY POLITICAL BUREAU AND OF NATIONAL ASSEMBLY).

--MINISTER OF FINANCE - MOHAMED FITOURI, NEW FOREIGN MINISTER, REPORTEDLY TO BE REPLACED BY AZZOUZ MATHARI, EX-DIRECTOR OF SEMI-GOVERNMENTAL SOCIETE TUNISIENNE DU BANQUE AND MOST RECENTLY WORKING IN BANKING BUSINESS IN LUXEMBOURG AND KUWAIT. (ALSO REPORTEDLY PRESIDENT OF INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA.)

--MINISTER OF NATIONAL ECONOMY-ABDELAZIZ LASRAM RESIGNED AND IS NOT TO BE REPLACED. FUNCTIONS OF NATIONAL ECONOMY MINISTRY DIVIDED BETWEEN TWO NEW MINISTRIES, MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY, MINES AND ENERGY AND MINISTRY OF COMMERCE.

--MINISTER OF INDUSTRY, MINES AND ENERGY (NEW)-TO BE HEADED BY ISMAIL KHELIL, OUT-GOING TUNISIAN AMBASSADOR TO EUROPEAN COMMUNITY, BELGIUM AND LUXEMBOURG (SINCE 1972).

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--MINISTER OF COMMERCE (NEW)-TO BE HEADED BY SLAHEDDINE M'BAREK, OUT-GOING PRESIDENT-DIRECTOR GENERAL OF OFFICE OF COMMERCE IN OLD MINISTRY OF NATIONAL ECONOMY (SINCE 1971).

--MINISTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH - MONGI KOOLI REPLACED BY MONGI BEN HAMIDA, WELL KNOWN NEUROLOGIST AND DEAN OF UNIVERSITY OF TUNIS MEDICAL SCHOOL (SINCE 1971).

--MINISTER OF SOCIAL AFFAIRS - MOHAMED ENNACEUR REPLACED BY MOHAMED JOMAA, OUT-GOING PRESIDENT-DIRECTOR GENERAL OF NATIONAL FUND FOR SAVINGS AND HOUSING (CNEL) (SINCE 1973).

--MINISTER IN CHARGE OF RELATIONS WITH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AND SECRETARY-GENERAL OF GOVERNMENT -MONCEF BELHAJ AMOR REPLACED BY OTHMAN KECHRID, OUT-GOING SECRETARY GENERAL OF MINISTRY OF INTERIOR (SINCE 1973).

--SECRETARY OF STATE ATTACHED TO MINISTER OF SOCIAL AFFAIRS IN CHARGE OF VOCATIONAL TRAINING (NEW) - NEW POSITION TO BE FILED BY NOUREDDINE KTARI, OUT-GOING DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF OFFICE OF TUNISIAN WORKERS ABROAD AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING (SINCE 1974).

--SECRETARY OF STATE FOR NATIONAL DEFENSE-AHMED BENNOUR REMOVED,
NO REPLACEMENT NAMED.

3. EMBASSY WILL SUBMIT EVALUATION AND COMMENTS ON THESE CHANGES
BY SEPTEL.
MULCAHY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 27-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
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Expiration:
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Format: TEL
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Litigation History:
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Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GOT ANNOUNCES FURTHER CHANGES IN GOVERNMENT ON DEC 26
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, TS
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/220b5efc-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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